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State of Rhode Island

ARBOR DAY!

May 6, 1892.

Office of Commissioner of Public Schools,
Providence, April 1, 1892.

To School Officers, Teachers, Pupils and
all others interested:

In accordance with the proclamation of His Excellency, Governor Ladd, you are earnestly requested to unite in the appropriate observance of Arbor Day. The object of the day is not alone to secure the planting of trees, but to direct attention more forcibly to nature in general, and especially to the manifold ways in which she may be made to contribute to our comfort and enjoyment.

The beautifying of school-grounds by the planting and care of such trees as give needed shade, without shutting out healthful sunlight from the schoolrooms, is a thing of far greater importance, as an educational factor, than expensive building ornaments. The allotment of a portion of the school-grounds, when not too limited, for the planting and care of flowering shrubs and summer blooming plants, is an object lesson for the pupils concerned in it, worthy of the highest commendation of enlightened people. The refining and elevating influence of such a work goes out to the homes around, and sweeter and happier lives are the result. The school premises should be the brightest spot of the neighborhood, and the approaches thereto such as should

lead to the place where minds are to be formed for time and for eternity.

The accompanying programme has been prepared in obedience to the law passed by the General Assembly in 1891, and is offered to the schools for their use, in the hope that it may be of service to them in their celebrations.

It is sincerely hoped that all schools will, so far as it is practicable, recognize the day and if possible secure the co-operation of parents and friends, so that it may be made to serve the purpose to its full extent. These programmes will be supplied in quantities as needed upon application to this office.

All teachers of schools holding any celebration of Arbor Day are requested to report the same without fail to their respective superintendents including in their reports the number and kind of trees and shrubs planted.

THOMAS B. STOCKWELL

Commissioner of Public
Schools.

2-IRY

A12

PROGRAMME.

1892-1933

CAUTION. Do not make your programme too long.

Suggestions. This programme is not intended as an absolute guide. Aside from the first part, which relates to the trees of Rhode Island, it is not expected that it will be followed in detail. It is hoped, however, that this part will be very generally learned and recited in connection with whatever exercises are arranged.

Besides this feature there are two separate schemes presented: The first one is provided for use upon the occasion of planting a single tree in memory or honor of some noted person, or as a class memorial; the second is designed for use where trees or shrubs are planted for purposes of general adornment and beauty, as upon the school grounds, or by the roadside.

There are also printed a number of choice selections, brief enough to be easily committed to memory by almost any pupil, which can be used at the teacher's discretion to vary the programme.

In most schools it will be found practicable to have compositions prepared upon various topics connected with this subject, such as origin of the day, uses of trees, their importance to animals and to man, kinds of trees, habits of growth, kinds of shrubs suitable for planting, methods of treatment and cultivation.

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The music has been selected largely with reference to its use in the open air and only those tunes chosen which can be rendered readily and with good effect. In case the exercises are held indoors the effect will be none the less satisfactory.

The arrangement of the songs in the programme is left, for the most part, to the judgment of the teacher.

1. SONG.
2. SCRIPTURE SELECTION.
(Either responsively, in unison,
or by one or more persons.)
3. PRAYER.
4. CHANT.
5. CLASS EXERCISE.

I. "NATIVE TREE GROWTH OF RHODE ISLAND."
L. W. Russell.

First Speaker--Rhode Island is a natural forest region. In the variety and usefulness of its native trees the State is probably not exceeded by any tract of equal extent in our country. The State furnishes, in different localities, every variety of soil, from the mere sand-bank, through all grades of mixed gravels and clays, to the leaf-mold and peat of the swamps and bogs. The conditions for a varied tree growth are further multiplied by changes in elevation, slope, exposure or protection, afforded by the uneven surface of the land, and frequently met with upon the area of a single farm. The State, small as it is, is under the influence of two quite different climatic conditions,--

the rigorous temperature of the hill country of New England, and the softer, milder weather due to an extended coast line and nearness to warm ocean currents. These conditions, too, greatly favor the production of a varied and interesting arboreal growth,--a variety which is still more noticeable in the native shrubs and smaller plant life of the region. These hills and valleys, slopes and plains, coastwise and inland, thus afford all that the lover of trees can reasonably ask for the planting and growth of many of the noblest and most beautiful kinds of trees to be found any where in temperate climates.

Second Speaker--So great is the variety of native trees in Rhode Island that all of Europe hardly furnishes a greater number of kinds fit for the uses of adornment and timber than are found in this little territory. Of oaks, the grandest of all leaf-dropping trees, we have eleven species, some of them among the noblest of their kind. Of maples, we have three species; birches, four; hickories, four; ash, two; elms, two; poplars, four; cherries, two.

There are, also, one each of beech, chestnut, butternut, basswood, hackberry, tulip, tupelo, hornbeam, hop hornbeam, sassafras and flowering dogwood. These trees ripen their leaves in the bright September and October days, but, before they fall, they light

up the landscape with a display of gorgeous colors and melting hues that seem pencil-lings from the rainbows and the sunsets of summer skies.

Third Speaker -- There are, among Rhode Island trees, enough of the evergreen cone-bearing species to give to the woods those soberer tints which tone so well with a varied natural scenery. With two or three native pines, several others seem equally at home, when planted. Common as it is, no more beautiful fine-leaved evergreen grows upon either continent than our native white pine. It is highly prized in Europe as an ornamental tree. The "Garden and Forest" says: "Americans who visit Europe cannot fail to remark, that, in the parks and pleasure grounds of the Continent, no coniferous tree is more graceful when young or more dignified at maturity than our American white pine." This tree, in Rhode Island, if planted in a favorable spot, shows a symmetry of form, a grace and airy lightness in its branching, and, when fully grown, a stateliness and majesty in its proportions that should excite the admiration of every beholder. There are many reaches of sand and sterile banks of gravel in this State, utterly worthless as they are, upon which the white pine would grow readily, converting these unsightly wastes into attractive and valuable woods.

Fourth Speaker--The hemlock is not excelled by any cone-bearing tree of our climate, in grace of outline, beauty of its spray, or brightness of its color. In

its motions and its whispering sounds
it has no superior.

The sturdy cedars, which take two centuries to grow and more centuries to die, stand sentinels by many a field and wayside of the coast district. All they ask is to be let alone! The white cedar yet lingers in our swamps, and it is ready to occupy any low waste ground. The spruce and fir balsam, although rare as natives, grow vigorously when planted. The beautiful holly, the most prized of Christmas evergreens, grows to perfect form, although not of large size, in a few localities in the south county and upon Conanicut and Prudence islands.

Fifth Speaker--From such an array of beautiful and valuable species the tree planted may choose. Among them he may find a kind suited for any locality from the hilltop to the bog. He may beautify his home grounds by shade trees which are graceful in youth, noble in maturity, and majestic even in ruin. From the trees native to the woods around, he may make the streets of the villages or the roadsides between them, avenues of grateful shade, or triumphal arches fit for the lords of any land. If he plants wisely to-day, and takes good care of his tree for a few years, he may, in his latter days, look with pride and affection upon the tree which he placed in the kindly earth.

II. "ARBOR DAY EXERCISE FOR A SCHOOL OR CLASS." -- L. W. Russell.

(The following exercise is designed

as the pupils' part of an Arbor Day tree-planting, the same to be varied, shortened or lengthened, as circumstances may require. Addresses by school officers and others may precede and follow the work of the pupils, and songs be introduced at proper places. The dedication of a tree to some person of high merit, especially one who is, or has been, a public benefactor, is a fitting and highly praiseworthy act. A well-developed tree, in the beauty and adaptation of its parts, in the nobility of its form and the majesty of its proportions, so well typified the best traits of active life in man, that we can hardly render a more grateful recognition of such traits than to dedicate a promising tree to one whose memory for a fruitful life in noble deeds we would cherish and perpetuate.)

First Speaker --Fellow Schoolmates: This, our tree, we plant as a symbol of what we aspire to be in our future lives. Like its prospective growth, may our lives expand and attain higher and higher reaches into the pure atmosphere of truthful purposes, and into the healthful sunlight of noble deeds. Like the tree, as it increases in stature and in breadth, may we grow in the qualities of strength, of usefulness, and of beauty. Like the tree, may we live what we seem to be. Like the tree, may we offer friendship which shall be constant and true. Like the life of the tree, may our plea for life be the good we do by living.

Second Speaker--Here, in these grounds, associated with happy memories of our school days, we plant our tree. We plant

with it the remembrances of our lives as a band of students of the ----- school; our wish, that the ties which now bind us may strengthen with the coming years; our hope, that the promise for a helpful and attractive life, typified by the tree as it grows and shades and protects, may be seen and felt in us, as the spring-times come and go. We plant with it a firm resolution that, as one by one we revisit these old school-grounds in years to come, we will give no cause for our schoolmates to look upon us with shame, nor for our tree to reproach us for a blasted life, nor in ourselves to mourn days spent in idleness or given to infamous living. But may we, rather, "be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth his fruit in his season."

Third Speaker. Schoolmates: We plant to-day a tree as emblematic of our hopes and our aspirations. As we place its tender roots in the kindly earth so may our ambitions have ever a firm root in noble character. As we pray for heaven's dews and sunshine for our tree, may God's approval smile on us and bless us always; and as its branches point ever upward and outward so may our lives grow broader and higher to bless our fellow-workers in their way of life.

Fourth Speaker. From this day forth this tree will be our tree. As

it grows into proportions of symmetry and charms by its beauty and gives comfort by its protection and shade, may it be to us a true type of our own growth in that which elevates our lives, beautifies the character, makes us helpful to our fellow-men.

Fifth Speaker. All people, and especially young people, should be interested in trees for the following reasons: Such a study cultivates habits of observation; the knowledge gained is, in itself, valuable; trees have interesting historic and patriotic associations; communion with nature is wholesome, cheering, and ennobling; literature is permeated with the spirit and imagery of the forest. The very terms used in literary work are redolent of the woods; thus, "paper" from papyrus; "book" from beech; "library" from liber, the inside bark; and "leaf" from the leaves of trees.

Sixth Speaker.

"No tree in all the woods but hath its charm,
Though each its hue peculiar; paler some
And of a murky gray; the willows such
And poplar that with silver lines its leaf,
And ash far stretching his umbrageous arm;
Of deeper green the elm; and deeper still,
Lord of the woods, the long surviving oak,
Some glossy leaved and shining in the sun.
The maple and the beech of oily nuts
Prolific, and the lime at dewy eve
Diffusing odors; nor unnoticed pass
The sycamore, capricious in attire,

Now green, now tawny, and ere autumn yet
Has changed the woods, in scarlet honors
bright."

-- Cowper.

Seventh Speaker.

"Wide flush the fields; the softening
air is balm;

Echo the mountains round; the forest
smiles;

And every sense and every heart is joy."

-- Thomson.

Behold now the quickening forces of
nature are most active; a pulse beats in
every blade of grass; a heart throbs in
each bark-bound tree; a song would fain
thrill their opening lips. It is life,
life, LIFE, once more!

Eighth Speaker.

"As the twig is bent so is the tree in-
clined."

Lift up thy branches to the heavens
above thee! Take in strength and beauty;
take freely the gift of life; and may we
plant with thee, O tree, one noble pur-
pose that with thee shall take root and
heavenward grow!

Strike deep into the ground thy
roots, O tree! Seek strength from
nature's veins; strength, that beauty
may appear; strength, that winter's
storms may not rend thee; strength,
for life is for the strong; and may
long life be thine!

Ninth Speaker.

"A tree is a nobler object than a prince
in his coronation robes."

Plant trees; they will ever delight
by their beauty. Plant trees; they pu-
rify the atmosphere where they grow.
Plant trees; they are co-workers with
the sunshine and the rain in making the
earth fruitful and habitable for man. Be-
fore man was trees grew; and where man is
trees must be.

Tenth Speaker. Schoolmates: The cer-
emonial tree-planting of to-day is an ob-
ject lesson which will touch our hearts so
long as memory yields treasured pictures
of our happy school-days. This ceremony
will strengthen and preserve the bonds
which now link us together. This is a
ceremony which impresses us with a high
regard for the beneficent and noble qual-
ities typified by trees, "God's first
temples." It is a ceremony which will
perpetuate by a living monument, to grow
in strength and in beauty, the memory of
our school, the pupils and teachers who
compose it, the officers who govern it,
and the friends who now gather around us.

ALL. God-bless-our-tree!

III. A Second Exercise. ABOUT TREES.-

L. W. Russell.

First Speaker. Of the many and greatly
varied kinds of growth found in the vege-
table creation, there is none that, in all
ages and in all countries, has linked it-
self more closely with the life of man

than that of trees. Savage and barbarous tribes depend very largely upon the products of trees of the regions where they dwell for food, clothing, and shelter. And among civilized peoples everywhere trees not only minister largely to their physical necessities and comforts, supplying also many of their highest luxuries, but appeal to their love for the noble and majestic in form and stature and gratify their taste for the beautiful in color, and for harmony of light and shade and graceful motion. Our ancestors, far back, invested the grand old trees about them with a sacred character. Whispered oracles they heard in them, which were believed. Shakspeare was not the first to find "tongues in trees." Since his time the poets, all along, have found inspiration in the groves and the forests. They have sung of them, have laid their most delightful scenes among them, and have hardly discoursed with nature at all without them.

Second Speaker. No grander poem has been written by an American than Bryant's "Forest Hymn," the noblest thoughts of which spring from his reverence of the forest: --

"The groves were God's first temples--
Father, thy hand hath reared these
venerable columns;
Thou didst rear this verdant roof;
Thou didst look down upon the naked
And forthwith rose all these ranks
of trees.

* * * * * This mighty oak

By whose immovable stem I stand and seem
-Almost annihilated, -- not a prince
In all that proud old world beyond the
 deep,
E'er wore his crown as loftily as he
Wears the green coronal of leaves with
 which
Thy hand hath graced him-- * * *
Be it ours to meditate, in these calm
 shades,
Thy milder majesty,
And to the beautiful order of thy works
Learn to conform the order of our lives."

Third Speaker. Plant with your own
hand some native tree. As it develops
in size and beauty, so it grows in your
affections. Build a house and it never
fully satisfies. You might have done
better. It must be constantly repaired
and renewed or it falls in decay and
ruin. The tree you plant beside it
greet's you, when both you and the house
are old, as a strong youth. As it
stretches out its vigorous arms in the
sunlight, and gracefully sways to the
breezes, it seems a benediction upon
your thoughtfulness in planting it there.
You look upon it with an affectionate
pride. Its friendship is as perennial
as its own nature. It is impartial too.
It gives its grateful shelter to all who
seek it. Its beauty is for all. Fences
and hedges may hide the charms of bedded
flowers; but the stately tree lifts its
head above the fences and selfish screens
for you, for me, and for all.

Fourth Speaker. Some of the ancient
kings of Egypt erected colonnades of

stone statues of themselves to overawe their subjects and to perpetuate their memory and glorify their names. A better thing for our American kings--of their own acres at least--to do, is to plant colonnades of shade trees by the waysides, in town and country, to give beauty and comfort to their own and future generations.

Fifth Speaker. The grandest objects of the vegetable world are to be found among trees. He who is susceptible to the majestic in nature stands in silent wonder as he beholds the loftiness, the massiveness, and the unyielding strength of some of the largest specimens of tree growth. He may fitly contemplate with reverential awe the unseen forces which built up, cell by cell; through the lapse of centuries, the giant Sequoias of the Sierras, the lofty Eucalypti of Australia, or the mighty oaks, hoary with age, scattered here and there, the only living witnesses of the birth of nations.

Sixth Speaker. The wide spreading branches of a single tree often form a leafy dome expressing a harmony in size, shape, changing colors, airy lightness and varied beauty, which are to be found together nowhere else in nature. There is scarcely a form of beauty in natural objects which may not be found among the different kinds of trees--in their shapes, their buds, their blossoms, their leaves, their fruits, or in their woods. Art is constantly borrowing from them and is most

successful when she copies most nearly. There are no elements of natural beauty which can be so easily and so cheaply managed and utilized for outdoor adornment as are those that may be found in trees. The different sizes to which they grow, the varied shapes which they take, their charms of coloring as the season of blossom and foliage advances, and the ready adaptation of the several species to the most varied conditions of soil and exposure, furnish a range of desirable qualities for beautiful and harmonious landscape effects which are nowhere else to be found.

Seventh Speaker. A tree may be an obstruction, and its removal a necessity; but while growing it is never useless. No shade is so cooling, so cheerful, so refreshing, as that given by a well-grown tree. No places are so much sought for summer recreation, for pleasure parties, or for sanitary camping grounds, as well located groves. Even if a tree be in a remote forest, where human feet never tread, yet even there it is not useless; it is storing up timber which may be wanted; it is a unit in tempering the climate and purifying the atmosphere; and it helps to keep back the snows and retain the rainfalls for slow, gradual flowage during the summer months.

Eighth Speaker. No one thing adds so much to the attractiveness of our New-England towns and villages as the

fine shade trees which are seen along the highways and about the home grounds. Nothing has shown a wiser forethought nor a more refined taste in building the flourishing towns of the central and western States, than the liberal planting of trees, for shade, for ornament, and for protection.

Trees are of great importance as wind-breaks. In many localities productive fruit orchards are impossible without a barrier of well-grown forest trees to shield the fruit trees from prevailing winds. Tilled fields and even grazing lots are far more productive when in the lee of tree-belts than if fully exposed to sweeping winds.

Ninth Speaker. It is estimated, by those who have made forestry a study, that at least from 25 to 33 per cent. of a region, as a State or a county, should be thickly wooded, to ensure those climatic conditions necessary to agricultural prosperity, and to secure a fair degree of constancy in springs and streams. Most States north of the Potomac and the Ohio, and east of the Rocky mountains, have reached the "danger point" in deforestation, while some have passed it. Destructive floods and desolating drouths surely follow the removal of too large a portion of the forests belonging to a large water-course and its branches. The State of Ohio furnishes a sad, as well as instructive, example. In 1853 the State had 54 per cent. of its surface covered with forests. In 1884 but

17 per cent. of the area remained in timber; thus a single generation swept off two-thirds of the forest in existence at its beginning. The consequence has been the constant widening of areas which have become parched and barren from excessive drouths, and the periodical occurrence of floods most appalling in their destruction of life and property.

Tenth Speaker. The spongy masses of forest humus, leaves and mosses take up the water from the slowly melting snows and hold it for gradual percolation into the ground. In summer it works in veins through gravel and subsoils, finding its way by slopes to open spaces where it nourishes plants all over the ground. The surplus appears in refreshing springs, goes singing down the stony brooks, does service at the mills, keeps full the canals, or brings tribute to the larger streams at the season when water is most needed. So we see the need of forests to act as reservoirs for the rainfall, giving it out slowly as the summer heat makes it necessary for vegetable growth.

IV. SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS.

"And God said let the earth bring forth the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind; and the earth brought forth the tree yielding fruit; and God saw that it was good. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food."

"The tree of the field is man's life.

Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the Lord; then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord. The trees of the Lord are full of sap, the cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted, where the birds make their nests; as for the stork, the fir trees are her house."

"Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord; he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

Of Wisdom, the wise man saith: "She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her, and happy is every one that retaineth her." And again, "the fruit of the righteous is a tree of life. Hope deferred maketh the heart sick, but when the desire cometh it is a tree of life; and a wholesome tongue is a tree of life."

"And the angel carried me away in the spirit, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem; in the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." And

he said: "To him that overcometh, will I give to eat of the tree of life which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

V. SELECTIONS FOR RECITATION.

"Plant trees for beauty,
for pleasure, and for health;
Plant trees for shelter,
for fruitage, and for wealth."

"What conqueror in any part of 'life's broad field of battle' could desire a more beautiful, a more noble, or a more patriotic monument than a tree planted by the hands of pure and joyous children, as a memorial of his achievements?

What earnest, honest worker with hand and brain, for the benefit of his fellow-men, could desire a more pleasing recognition of his usefulness than such a monument, a symbol of his or her productions, ever growing, ever blooming, and ever bearing wholesome fruit?

How significant and suggestive is the dedication of a young tree as a monument!" -- Lossing.

"I shall speak of trees as we see them, love them, adore them in the fields where they are alive, holding their green sun-shades over our heads, talking to us with their hundred thousand whispering tongues, looking down

on us with that sweet meekness which belongs to hugh but limited organisms-- which one sees most in the patient posture, the outstretched arms, and the heavy-drooping robes of these vast beings, endowed with life, but not with soul-- which outgrow us and outlive us, but stand helpless, poor things--while nature dresses and undresses them." -- Holmes.

He who plants a tree

Plants a hope.

Rootlets up through fibres blindly
grope,

Leaves unfold into horizons free.

So man's life must climb

From the clods of time

Unto heavens sublime.

Can'st thou prophesy, thou little tree,
What the glory of thy boughs shall be?

He who plants a tree,

He plants love;

Tents of coolness spreading out above
Wayfarers, he may not live to see.

Gifts that grow are best;

Hands that bless are blest;

Plant! Life does the rest.

Heaven and earth help him who plants
a tree,

And his work its own reward shall be.

-- Lucy Larcom.

"Trees, plants, and flowers talk to us grandly, lovingly, beautifully. To learn their language we must give attentive, ears, eyes, and minds; then their speech will minister continually to our happiness."

"Give fools their gold and knaves their
power;

Let fortune's bubbles rise and fall;
Who sows a field, or trains a flower,
Or plants a tree, is more than all.

For he who blesses most is blest;
And God and man shall own his worth,
Who toils to leave as his bequest
An added beauty to the earth."

-- Whittier.

"There is something nobly simple
and pure in a taste for the cultivation
of forest-trees. It argues, I think, a
sweet and generous nature to have this
strong relish for the beauties of vege-
tation, and this friendship for the
hardy and glorious sons of the forest.
There is a grandeur of thought con-
nected with this part of rural economy.

***** He who plants an oak looks
forward to future ages, and plants for
posterity. Nothing can be less selfish
than this." -- Irving

"Summer or winter, day or night,
The woods are an ever new delight;
They give us peace, and they make
us strong,
Such wonderful balms to them belong;
So, living or dying, I'll take my
ease

Under the trees, under the trees."

-- Stoddard.

"I have written many verses, but
the best verses I have produced are the
trees I have planted." -- Holmes.

Fair tree! for thy delightful shade
 'Tis just that some return be made;
 Sure some return is due from me
 To thy cool shadows and to thee.
 When thou to birds dost shelter give,
 Thou music dost from them receive;
 If travelers beneath thee stay
 Till storms have worn themselves away,
 That time in praising thee they spend,
 And thy protecting power commend;
 The shepherd here from scorching freed,
 Tunes to thy dancing leaves his reed,
 Whilst his loved nymph in thanks bestows
 Her flowery chaplets on her boughs.

-- Lady Winchilsea-- "The Tree."

In June 'tis good to lie beneath a tree
 While the blithe season comforts every
 sense,
 Steeps all the brain in rest, and heals
 the heart.

* * * * *

This willow is as old to me as life,
 And under it full often have I stretched,
 Feeling the warm earth like a thing
 alive,
 And gathering virtue in at every pore.

-- Lowell-- "Under the Willow."

If thou art worn and hard beset
 With sorrows, that thou wouldst forget,
 If thou wouldst read a lesson, that
 will keep
 Thy heart from fainting and thy soul
 from sleep,

Go to the woods and hills! No tears
 Dim the sweet look that Nature wears.

-- Longfellow.

THE PINE TREE.

Old as Jove,
Old as love,
Who of me
Tells the pedigree?
Only the mountains old,
Only the waters cold,
Only moon and star,
My coevals are,
Ere the first fowl sung,
My relenting boughs among,
Ere Adam wived,
Ere Adam lived,
Ere the duck dived,
Ere the bees hived,
Ere the lion roared,
Ere the eagle soared,
Light and heat, land and sea,
Spake unto the oldest tree.

--Emerson: "Wood Notes."

A little of thy steadfastness,
Rounded with leafy gracefulness,
Old oak, give me --
That the world's blast may round
me blow,
And I yield gently to and fro,
While my stout-hearted trunk below,
And firm-set roots unshaken be.

-- Lowell.

THE WAYSIDE INN.

I halted at a pleasant inn,
As I my way was wending--
A golden apple was the sign,
From knotty bough depending.

Mine host--it was an apple tree--

He smilingly received me,
And spread his choicest, sweetest
fruit,
To strengthen and relieve me.

Full many a little feathered guest
Came through his branches springing;
They hopped and flew from spray to
spray,
Their notes of gladness singing.

Beneath his shade I laid me down,
And slumber sweet possessed me;
The soft wind blowing through the
leaves
With whispers low caressed me;

And when I rose, and would have paid
My host so open-hearted,
He only shook his lofty head--
I blessed him, and departed.
--From the German.

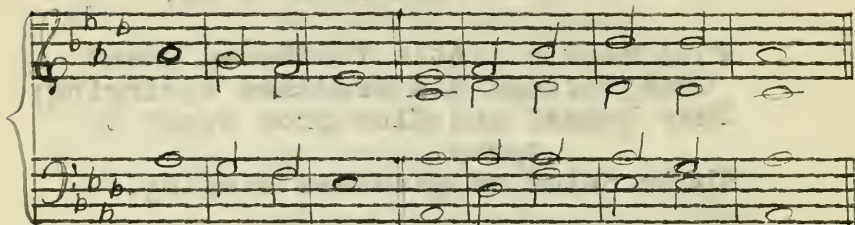
LEAF-TONGUES OF THE FOREST.

The leaf-tongues of the forest, the flower-
lips of the sod,
The happy birds that hymn their rapture
in the ear of God,
The summer wind that bringeth music over
land and sea,
Have each a voice that singeth this sweet
song of songs to me:
"This world is full of beauty, like other
worlds above
And, if we did our duty, it might be full
of love."

-- Gerald Massey.

VI. SONGS.

CHANT.



1. O, all ye Works of the Lord, bless/ ye
the/ Lord // Praise Him and / magni
fy/Him for / ever.//
2. O ye Havens, **bleſs** /ye . the /Lord //
Praise Him, etc.
3. O ye Waters that be above the **FIRMA-**
MENT, **bleſs** /ye . the /Lord!//Praise
Him, etc.
4. O all ye Powers of the LORD, **bleſs** /
ye . the /Lord// Praise Him, etc.
5. O ye Sun and Moon, **bleſs** /ye . the /
Lord // **Praise** Him, etc.
6. O ye Stars of Heaven, **bleſs** /ye . the/
Lord //Praise Him, etc.
7. O ye Showers and Dew, **bleſs** /ye . the /
Lord //Praise Him, etc.
8. O ye Winds of God, **bleſs** /ye . the /
Lord //Praise Him, etc.
9. O ye Winter and Summer, **bleſs**/ye . the /
Lord // Praise Him, etc.
10. O ye Dews and Frosts, **bleſs**/ ye . the /
Lord // Praise Him, etc.
11. O ye Ice and Snow, **bleſs**/ye . the /
Lord // Praise Him, etc.
12. O ye Nights and Days, **bleſs**/ ye . the /
Lord // Praise Him, etc.

13. O ye Lightnings' and Clouds, bless/ye .
the /Lord // Praise Him, etc.
14. O let the Earth bless the LORD / yea .
let /it // Praise Him, etc.
15. O ye Mountains' and Hills, bless/ ye .
the /Lord // Praise Him, etc.
16. O all ye Green Things upon the EARTH,
bless / ye . the /Lord // Praise Him, etc.

(Suggestion. This chant may be rendered effectively by making it responsive, having one portion of the school sing the first part, and the whole school the second part or response.)

AMERICA.

My country! 'Tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died!
Land of the pilgrim's pride!
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God! to thee,
Author of Liberty,
 To thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
 Great God, our King.

-- Samuel F. Smith.

---THE MARCH.

Suggestions.---See that the children keep step to the air of the song. Arrange them according to size, the smallest first, that the column may present a picturesque appearance.

MARCHING SONG.

1. There's Springtime in the air
 When the happy robin sings,
 And earth grows bright and fair,
 Covered with the robe she brings.

Cho. March, oh, march 'tis Arbor Day,
 Joy for all and cares away;
March, oh, march from duties free
 To the planting of the tree.

2. There's Springtime in the air
 When the buds begin to swell,
 And woodlands, brown and bare,
 All the summer joys foretell.

Cho.

3. There's Springtime in the air
 When the heart so fondly prays;
 This tribute, sweet and rare,
 We to mother earth may raise.

Cho.

PLANTING OF THE TREE.

1. Tender twig and rootlet fine,
Guarded by an eye divine,
Now to earth's fond care we give,
May they stronger grow and live.
2. Planted with the faith of youth,
Emblem fair of Nature's truth,
Smiles and hopes, no need of fears,
Promise of the coming years.
3. Slowly rising toward the sky,
Spreading knowledge, liberty,
Glories of our country blest,
Type of all we hold the best.
4. Day of pride the nation's joy,
Our glad service long employ,
Ever thy return shall see,
Hearts to tend and love this tree.

KELLER'S AMERICAN HYMN.

1. Speed our republic, O Father on high!
Lead us in pathways of justice and
right;
Rulers as well as the ruled, one and
all,
Girdle with virtue - the armor of
might!
Hail! three times hail to our
country and flag!
Rulers as well as the ruled, one
and all,
Girdle with virtue, the armor of
might!
Hail! three times hail to our
country and flag!

2. Foremost in battle, for Freedom to
stand,

We rush to arms when aroused by
its call;

Still as of yore, when George
Washington led,

Thunders our war cry, We conquer
or fall!

Hail! three times hail to our
country and flag!

Still as of yore, when George
Washington led,

Thunders our war cry, We conquer
or fall!

Hail! three times hail to our
country and flag!

3. Rise up, proud eagle, rise up to the
clouds,

Spread thy broad wings o'er this
fair western world!

Fling from thy beak our dear banner
of old!

Show that it still is for Freedom
unfurl'd!

Hail! three times hail to our
country and flag!

Fling from thy beak our dear banner
of old --

Show that it still is for Freedom
unfurl'd!

Hail! three times hail to our
country and flag!

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PRAYER FOR OUR STATE.

Air -- "America."

God bless our noble State,
And make her doubly great,
In progress grand,
Nor fear to right the wrong,
Protect among the throng,
The weak as well as strong,
By her command.

Long may her banner bright,
Wave in the morning light,
And all her laws,
Approved by justice stand,
Her sons a manly band,
Her daughters hand in hand,
The home her cause.

--D. R. Lucas, Des Moines, Ia.

A HYMN IN PRAISE OF THE NATURAL WORLD.

Air -- "Auld Lang Syne."

The Winter storms have passed away,
And Spring time now is here
With sunshine smiling all around,
And heavens blue and clear,
The gifts of Nature brighten earth,
And make her garden gay;
They give a cheery greeting bright
On this, the Arbor Day.

The flowers have risen from their
sleep,
And, decked in garments gay,
They lift their smiling faces bright
On this, the Arbor Day,

They shed forth all their fragrance
 rare,
And loving tribute pay,
And give of all their little wealth
On this, the Arbor Day.

The birds with gladsome voices sing,
 Each its melodious lay,
And music swells each little throat
On this, the Arbor Day.
The trees put forth their greenest
 leaves

On this, the Arbor Day,
And welcome now the chosen tree
Which we shall plant to-day.

--Ellen Beauchamp, Baldwinsville, N.Y.

CHILDREN'S PRAISE SONG.

Air--Webb--"The Morning Light is Break-
 ing, etc."

Thus came the welcome favor,
From the Creator's hand,
Dispensing life and beauty
With joy to every land;
The earth received the blessing,
And, grateful to her King,
Doth, each returning season,
Rich tribute to him bring.

Then, let us now, most grateful,
To the Creator raise
Our hearts in adoration,
In joyful words of praise;
For thus may all creation,
In worship so divine,
Unite in pure devotion,
At Nature's holy shrine.

In grateful imitation,
Of the Creator's hand,
Let us extend the blessing
In this, our favored land;
On Arbor Day be willing
To multiply the gift,
While gentle rains distilling,
Shall cause abundant thrift.

Thus, through the lapse of ages,
The blessing shall extend,
And earth's most beauteous pages
Grow brighter to the end;
While we with songs of gladness,
Shall ever grateful raise,
To the all wise Creator,
Our heartfelt words of praise.

--W.B.Downer, Cazenovia, N.Y.

THE CLASS TREE.
Air -- "America."

Grow thou and flourish well,
Ever the story tell,
Of this glad day;
Long may thy branches raise
To heaven our grateful praise;
Waft them on sunlight rays,
To God away.

Deep in the earth to-day,
Safely thy roots we lay,
Tree of our love;

Grow thou, and flourish long;
Ever our grateful song
Shall its glad notes prolong
 To God above.

"Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees,"
 On this glad day;
Bless Thou each student band
O'er all our happy land;
Teach them thy love's command,
 Great God, we pray.

-- Emma S. Thomas,
 Schoharie, N.Y.

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